

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims so as to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus comprising a manual feed unit including:
 - (i) a feed tray,
 - (ii) a pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, and
 - (iii) a supporting body for supporting the pair of conveying rollers, wherein said manual feed unit conveys a sheet placed on the feed tray via a conveying path through which said sheet is conveyed by said pair of conveying rollers, and
the supporting body includes:
 - (a) a first unit having one of said pair of conveying rollers and
 - (b) a second unit having the other of said pair of conveying rollers, andsaid first unit and said second unit are separable from each other in a direction substantially parallel to said conveying path.
2. Cancelled, without prejudice
3. (Previously Presented) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein:
one of said first unit and said second unit is detachable in a direction opposite a sheet conveying direction.

4. (Currently Amended) The A sheet conveying apparatus comprising:

- (i) a pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying said sheet in a predetermined direction, and

- (ii) a supporting body for supporting the pair of conveying rollers,
wherein:

said sheet conveying apparatus conveys said sheet via a conveying path through which said sheet is conveyed by said pair of conveying rollers,
said supporting body includes:

- (a) a first unit having one of said pair of conveying rollers, and

- (b) a second unit having the other of said pair of conveying rollers, and

said first unit and said second unit are separable from each other, and

wherein:

at least one of said pair of conveying rollers is supported on said first unit or said second unit by a movable supporting member in such a manner that the at least one of said pair of conveying rollers is movable in a direction substantially parallel to a direction separating said first unit and said second unit.

5. (Previously Presented) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 4,
wherein:

said movable supporting member includes:

- (i) a positioning and supporting block connected to a bearing to which
said at least one of said pair of conveying rollers is connected, and
- (ii) a tension spring having one end connected to a conveying
guide of one of said first unit and said second unit and the other end
connected to said positioning and supporting block ;

said one of said first unit and said second unit includes said
movable supporting member;

said positioning and supporting block includes a convex guide portion;

said conveying guide has a guide hole along which said convex guide
portion is movable in a horizontal direction; and

when said positioning and supporting block is moved in accordance with a pressure
applied in the horizontal direction, said tension spring is contracted or expanded,
so as to allow said convex guide portion to move in the horizontal direction along
said guide hole.

6. (Previously Presented) A sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

a positioning convex portion provided to a one of said first unit and said second unit that
does not have the movable supporting member, wherein

when said positioning and supporting block is moved in accordance with a pressure
applied by said positioning convex portion, said tension spring is contracted or
expanded so as to allow said convex guide portion to move in the horizontal
direction along said guide hole.

7. (Previously Presented) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 4, wherein:
said roller supported by said movable supporting member is a driven roller.

8. (Previously Presented) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein:
only one of said first unit and said second unit is a movable unit when
said first unit and said second unit are separated from each other; and
one of said pair of conveying rollers is mounted to said movable unit and
driven.

9. (Previously Presented) A sheet conveying apparatus comprising:

- (i) a first pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction,
- (ii) a second pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, said first pair of conveying rollers and said second pair of conveying rollers facing each other, and
- (iii) supporting bodies for respectively supporting said first pair of conveying rollers and said second pair of conveying rollers, wherein
said sheet conveying apparatus includes a first conveying path and a second conveying path, said first conveying path and said second conveying path facing one another, and

said sheet conveying apparatus conveys sheets through said first conveying path and said second conveying path, said first conveying path conveying a sheet by said first pair of conveying rollers, said second conveying path conveying a sheet by said second pair of conveying rollers, and said second conveying path being connected with said first conveying path downstream of said first pair of conveying rollers provided in said first conveying path,

said supporting bodies include:

- (a) a third unit supporting said first pair of conveying rollers and one of said second pair of conveying rollers, and
- (b) a fourth unit supporting the other of said second pair of conveying rollers, and

said third unit and said fourth unit are separable from each other.

10. (Previously Presented) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein:

said third unit and said fourth unit are separable in a direction substantially parallel to said first conveying path and said second conveying path.

11. (Currently Amended) The A sheet conveying apparatus comprising:

- (i) a first pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction,
- (ii) a second pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, said first pair of conveying rollers and said second pair of conveying rollers facing each other, and
- (iii) supporting bodies for respectively supporting said first pair of conveying rollers and said second pair of conveying rollers, wherein

said sheet conveying apparatus conveys sheets through said first conveying path and said second conveying path, said first conveying path being a conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by said first pair of conveying rollers, said second conveying path being a conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by said second pair of conveying rollers, and said second conveying path being connected with said first conveying path downstream of said first pair of conveying rollers provided in said first conveying path,

said supporting bodies include:

- (a) a third unit having the first pair of conveying rollers and one of said second pair of conveying rollers, and
 - (b) a fourth unit having the other of said second pair of conveying rollers, and
- said third unit and said fourth unit are separable from each other, and further wherein: one of said third unit and said fourth unit is detached in a direction opposite to a sheet conveying direction.

12. (Previously Presented) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein:
at least one of said second pair of conveying rollers is supported on said
third unit or said fourth unit by a movable supporting member in such a manner
that said at least one of said second pair of conveying rollers is movable in a
direction substantially parallel to a direction of separating said third unit and said
fourth unit.
13. (Previously Presented) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 12, wherein:
said roller supported by said movable supporting member is a driven roller.
14. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:
a sheet conveying apparatus including a manual feed unit having:
(i) a feed tray,
(ii) a pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying
the sheet in a predetermined direction and
(iii) a supporting body for supporting said pair of conveying rollers, wherein
said sheet conveying apparatus conveys said sheet placed on the
feed tray via a conveying path through which said sheet is
conveyed by said pair of conveying rollers, and
said supporting body includes:
(a) a first unit having one of said pair of conveying rollers and
(b) a second unit having the other of said pair of conveying rollers, and
said first unit and said second unit ~~being~~ are separable from each other in a direction
substantially parallel to said conveying path.

15. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a sheet conveying apparatus including

- (i) a first pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction,
- (ii) a second pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, said first pair of conveying rollers and said second pair of conveying rollers facing each other, and
- (iii) supporting bodies for respectively supporting said first pair of conveying rollers and said second pair of conveying rollers, wherein

said sheet conveying apparatus includes a first conveying path and a second conveying path, said first conveying path and said second conveying path facing one another, and

said sheet conveying apparatus conveys sheets through said first conveying path and said second conveying path, said first conveying path conveying a sheet by said first pair of conveying rollers, said second conveying path conveying a sheet by said second pair of conveying rollers, and said second conveying path being connected with said first conveying path downstream of said first pair of conveying rollers provided in said first conveying path,

said supporting bodies include:

- (a) a third unit supporting said first pair of conveying rollers and one of said second pair of conveying rollers, and
- (b) a fourth unit supporting the other of said second pair of conveying rollers, and

said third unit and said fourth unit are separable from each other.